

ANNUAL COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE SCHEDULE FOR 2022

The Legislative Cycle. The Council’s regular sessions are held twice a month on first and third Wednesdays. A “legislative cycle” is the period between and including regular sessions, which usually spans three consecutive Wednesdays (14 days). Upon the introduction of a legislative item (typically through a “First Reading” at a regular session), the Council usually schedules it for public deliberation at a subsequent meeting.

Referral to Committee. Legislation is typically referred to one of the Council’s committees, which hold meetings to consider such items on second and fourth Wednesdays. A standing committee has two legislative cycles to make recommendations on an item referred (i.e., it can hold a meeting on the second and fourth Wednesdays after referral).

A standing committee must return the item to the full Council by the second Regular Session following its referral, but may choose to return the item within a single cycle (i.e., after having held only one meeting).

Location and Time of Meetings: Unless otherwise indicated, the Council meets on the first four Wednesdays each month in the Council Chambers, Suite 115 of City Hall, at 6:30 p.m. It also meets for Work Sessions on Fridays about 12 days before the beginning of the next legislative cycle. See the first column of the chart below. When considering referred legislation, standing committee meetings start between 5:30 and 9:45 pm (BMC 2.04.255).

Work Sessions. These provide an opportunity for members to preview city initiatives, many of which are legislative items close to being

formally introduced at Council. These meetings are typically held in the Library in Suite 110 of City Hall at 12 noon. If the Library is too small for the meeting, the Council may move it to another room in City Hall and post notice on the door of Suite 110 the day of the change in location. Work Sessions will be held on the dates noted below.

Deadlines for Legislation: There are typically two deadlines for submitting legislation for each cycle: one for ordinances and another for resolutions. All accompanying materials, including a summary memo, must be submitted to the Council Office via email by noon on the date listed below. For the manner for submitting these materials, please inquire with the Council Office.

LEGISLATIVE CYCLE	COUNCIL WORK SESSION	DEADLINE (NOON) FOR EMAIL SUBMISSION OF ORDINANCES	DEADLINE (NOON) FOR EMAIL SUBMISSION OF RESOLUTIONS	REGULAR SESSIONS - 1 ST ORDINANCE READINGS	COMMITTEE MEETINGS - ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS	REGULAR SESSIONS - 2 ND ORDINANCE READINGS & RESOLUTIONS
	FRIDAYS	MONDAYS	MONDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS
0				1 Jan. 5		
1	2021 Dec. 13 <i>M</i>	2021 Dec. 15 <i>w</i>	2021 Dec. 15 <i>w</i>	1 Jan. 12	1 Jan. 12	Jan. 19
2	Jan. 7	Jan. 10	Jan. 14 <i>F</i>	Jan. 19	Jan. 26	Feb. 2
3	Jan. 21	Jan. 24	Jan. 31	Feb. 2	Feb. 9	Feb. 16
4	Feb. 4	Feb. 7	Feb. 14	Feb. 16	Feb. 23	Mar. 2
5	Feb. 18	Feb. 21	Feb. 28	Mar. 2	Mar. 9	2 Mar. 23
6	Mar. 4	Mar. 7	Mar. 14	2 Mar. 23	2,3 Mar. 30	Apr. 6
7	Mar. 25	Mar. 28	Apr. 4	Apr. 6	Apr. 13	Apr. 20
8	Apr. 8	Apr. 11	Apr. 18	Apr. 20	4 Apr. 27	May 4
9	Apr. 22	Apr. 25	May 2	May 4	May 11	May 18
10	May 6	May 9	May 16	May 18	May 25	June 1
11	May 20	May 23	May 27 <i>F</i>	5 June 1	5 June 8	5,6 June 15
<i>SUMMER RECESS (ENDING WITH REGULAR SESSION ON JULY 20)</i> ⁵						
12	July 8	July 11	July 18	5 July 20	5 July 27	5 Aug. 3
13	July 22	July 25	Aug. 1	Aug. 3	Aug. 10	Aug. 17
14	Aug. 5	Aug. 8	Aug. 15	Aug. 17	Aug. 24	Sept. 7
<i>[BUDGET WEEK – DEPARTMENTAL HEARINGS TO BE HELD – AUG 29-SEPT 1]</i> ⁴						
15	Aug. 26	Aug. 29	Sept. 2 <i>F</i>	Sept. 7	Sept. 14	Sept. 21
Budget	N/A	Sept. 19	Sept. 19	7 Sept. 28	7 Sept. 28	7 Oct. 12
16	Sept. 9	Sept. 12	Sept. 26	Sept. 21	8 Oct. 6 <i>Th</i>	Oct. 19
17	Oct. 7	Oct. 10	Oct. 17	Oct. 19	Oct. 26	Nov. 2
18	Oct. 21	Oct. 24	Oct. 31	Nov. 2	Nov. 9	Nov. 16
19	Nov. 4	Nov. 7	Nov. 14	Nov. 16	3,9 Nov. 30	10 Dec. 7
20	Nov. 18	Nov. 28	Dec. 5	Dec. 7	Dec. 14	10 Dec. 21
<i>YEAR-END RECESS</i> ¹⁰ followed by Organization Day (Jan. 4) and First Legislative Cycle of 2023						
1	Dec. 12 <i>M</i>	Dec. 14 <i>w</i>	Dec. 14 <i>w</i>	1 2023 Jan. 11	1 2023 Jan. 11	2023 Jan. 18

1. Organizational Meeting and First Legislative Cycle. The Council will hold its annual Organizational Meeting on January 5 when, along with other matters, it elects officers and appoints members to serve on various boards and commissions. Under local code, the meeting must be held no later than the second Wednesday in January unless rescheduled by a majority of the Council. (BMC 2.04.010 and BMC 2.04.050[a, c & d]).

The Council will hold a Regular Session immediately followed by committee meetings on January 12 in order to avoid losing a legislative cycle due to the January 5 Organizational Meeting.

2. Spring Break. The Council will hold its second Regular Session in March on Wednesday, March 23, and second Committee meeting that month on Wednesday March 30. This schedule avoids meeting over Spring Break (when many residents are out-of-town) and takes advantage of a fifth Wednesday to shift meetings to the fourth and fifth Wednesdays of the month.

3. Fifth Wednesdays. The Council does not generally meet on a fifth Wednesday of the month. In 2022, there are four such Wednesdays, which occur in March, June, August, and November. According to this schedule, the Council would meet on the fifth Wednesday in March (to avoid meeting during Spring Break), in August (for the third night of Budget Week) and in November (to replace the committee meeting from the previous week that is lost due to Thanksgiving).

4. Budget Hearings. The Council will hold a Budget Advance meeting in the Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 26. The Council will also hold a Budget discussion on Tuesday, June 14.

The Council will hold Departmental Budget Hearings in the Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m. each of the four nights of the week of August 29 through September 1 (a.k.a. "Budget Week"). Budget Books are scheduled to be delivered to members no later than the preceding Friday, August 26.

5. Summer Recess. BMC 2.04.050[e] states that the Council may schedule a summer recess, but if it does so, no legislation may be introduced for First Reading at the final regular session prior to the recess.

By approving this Annual Schedule, the Council will be scheduling a Summer Recess to begin after the first legislative cycle in June (which ends with the Regular Session of June 15) and to end with the Regular Session of July 20.

6. Tax Abatement Report. The Council will hear Annual Tax Abatement Reports no later than this Regular Session, during Reports from the Mayor and City Offices.

7. Budget Cycle. After holding Departmental Budget Hearings in late-August (see Note #4), the Council will formally consider the several items making up the City Budget for 2023 during a separate legislative cycle known as the "Budget Cycle," starting in late September and ending in mid-October. In keeping with the Wednesday meeting schedule, this Budget Cycle starts with a Special Session and Committee of the Whole

on the fourth Wednesday in September and ends with a Special Session on the second Wednesday in October.

Please note that the statutorily required initial public hearings associated with the City Budget package will be held during the aforementioned committee hearing, and the official adoption meeting will be held at Second Reading during the Special Budget Session in October.

8. Yom Kippur. Because Yom Kippur (Jewish High Holy Day) falls on Wednesday, October 5, the first Committee meeting in October has been rescheduled for Thursday, October 6.

9. Thanksgiving Week. The Council will not meet on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving per BMC 2.04.050[f]. In order to hold a full complement of Wednesday meetings during the two legislative cycles in November, this schedule utilizes the fifth Wednesday in November for committee meetings.

10. Year-End Recess. BMC 2.04.050[g] calls for the Council to recess after the second Regular Session in December. At this session, legislation may not be introduced for First Reading.

Additional Notes on the Council's Annual Legislative Schedule

Note: If additional meetings are scheduled, or if the date, time or place of a scheduled meeting changes, additional public notice will be posted. By adoption of this schedule, the Council gives staff the authority to correct typographical errors and align the narrative and notes to mesh with changes made in the course of and after Council approval of this schedule. These changes will not alter the date, time, or place of any meeting approved by the Council upon schedule adoption.

Special Note related public health emergencies: Under Indiana Code 5-14-1.5-3.7, during a declared public health emergency, the Council and its committees may meet by electronic means. The Council has been meeting via Zoom during the current public health emergency. The public may attend and observe these virtual meetings, which are accessible via links posted in advance of each meeting. Please check <https://bloomington.in.gov/council> for the most up-to-date information about how the public can access Council meetings during the public health emergency.

For background and more information, consult Chapter 2.04 of the Bloomington Municipal Code, visit the Council website at bloomington.in.gov/council, or contact the Council office at 812-349-3409 | council@bloomington.in.gov.